

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURES

Disclosed is a method of diagnosing the presence of a malignant tumor, including a glioma, in a human subject, which involves detecting overexpression of laminin $\alpha 4$ subunit protein or laminin $\alpha 4$ -specific mRNA, compared to the expression level in a normal tissue control. Also disclosed are a method of predicting the recurrence of a malignant tumor in a human subject from whom a malignant tumor has been resected and a method of classifying the grade of a malignant tumor, such as a glial tumor, based on a molecular classification.